Library Bond Act Grant Applications - Cycle 1 Office of Library Construction Findings

Project Name [Number]	Pickleweed Library 1053	Current Square Footage	526	
Applicant Applicant	San Rafael, City of	Project Square Footage	6,487	
Operating Library Jurisdiction	San Rafael Public Library	Service Area Population:	11,679	
Project Type	Remodel and Expansion			
Project Priority	2nd	Anticipated Construction Start Date:	9/10/2004	
Joint Use Type	N/A			
Multipurpose?	YES	Total Library Project Amount		\$2,014,251
Leased Site:	NO	State Grant Amount		\$1,288,893

Bond Act Factors [California Code of Regulations Title 5, Section 19998 (a)]

	Rated	Other
Needs of urban and rural areas:		[see map]
Population growth:		145%
Financial capacity of applicant to open and maintain operation of the library (new libraries only):		N / A
Age and condition of existing library:	Poor Condition (= Very Good)	
Inadequacy of the existing library in meeting needs of residents and the response of proposed project to meeting the needs:	Outstanding	
Plan of Service integrates appropriate electronic technology:	Very Good	
Appropriateness of proposed site for the proposed project:	Outstanding	
Overall Pating:	Vory Good	

Overall Rating: Very Good

Summary of Review Panel Comments

Population Growth 145.0%

Age and Condition The library was built in 1983 and has not been renovated. The feasibility study indicates that the current multipurpose facility can support the planned expansion. Major deficiencies of the existing library: inadequate space for all services and functions; inadequate acoustical control, inadequate lighting; inadequate and inefficient mechanical systems; and non-compliance with ADA codes.

Needs of residents/response of proposed project to needs The <u>needs assessment</u> process included input from the residents through a variety of methods, including phone and written surveys; focus groups, community meetings, and individual interviews. Analysis of input and demographic data was thorough, leading to appropriate determination of library service needs, which primarily center on the lack of space to provide adequate basic library services with a focus on assisting students, providing literacy training, providing computer access, and providing bilingual library services.

The plan of service responds the needs assessment findings and includes specific and clearly written goals, objectives, and service indicators.

The building program follows the needs assessment findings. Spatial relationships and individual spaces are well described.

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The conceptual plans implement the building program requirements. Both programmed and actual square footages are shown on the plan, but non-assignable square footage is not shown.

Joint use agreement: N/A

Plan of Service Integrates Appropriate Technology An understanding of the need for technology to assist in solving library service needs is demonstrated throughout the planning documents. Specific technology uses include: Web-based integrated automated library system; laptop PCs for patron use; Internet access and training; bilingual technology services and training; and a link to public library collections throughout the county via MARINet.

Appropriateness of Proposed Site The current library is located within the community center and will be expanded along with other community center expansion activity. The community center houses activities for all ages and has approximately 2,000 visitors per week. The site is accessible by clientele arriving by public or private transportation, on foot, or by bicycle. While adequate parking appears to be provided for the community center, there is no designated library parking. Additional parking exists on surrounding streets. The site size is adequate to accommodate the proposed project. It is within the 100-year flood plain, but appropriate engineering and design is planned to mitigate possible flood damage.

Financial Capacity The applicant has committed to the on-going operation of the completed library.

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